nearly destroyed. The English still occupied nearly the same position as in the morning, but their loss had been severe, perhaps not less than 10,000 killed and wounded. Tfieir ranks were further thinned by the numbers of men who carried off the wounded, part of whom never returned bo the field; the number of Belgian and Hanoverian troops, many of whom were young levies, that crowded to the rear, was very considerable, besides the number of dismounted dragoons, together with a proportion of infantry, some of whom, as will always be found in the best armies, were glad to escape from the field. These thronged the road leading to Brussels in a manner that none but an eye-witness could have believed, so that perhaps the actual force under the Duke of Wellington at this time, half-past six, did not amount to more than 34,000 men."

It may here be proper to consider the situation of the Prussian army, and the assistance they had been able to render up to this time.

"We had at an. early hour been in communication with some patrols of Prussian cavalry on our extreme left. A Prussian corps, under Bulow, had marched from Wavre at an early hour, 7 A.M., to manoeuvre on the right and rear of the French army, but Marshal Blucher with a large proportion of the Prussian army were still on the heights above Wavre when the action had commenced at Waterloo." [1] The state of the roads had become deplorable, for the ground was completely saturated with the heavy rains that had fallen during sixteen hours. Rivulets had become torrents: water had filled up every hollow, so as constantly to compel the troops to separate, for in many cases the infantry were obliged to wade for hundreds of yards together along the forest roads, which might rather be termed water-courses. The columns of the Prussian troops advancing from Wavre extended over many miles. Great as were the obstacles that retarded the progress of the cavalry and infantry, the

immense   train   of

f
artillery occasioned still greater delay, although   i
they had not
|
more than twelve or fourteen miles to
              march.   The guns fre-i
              Captain Pringle.